Amendments to the Claims:

Please **cancel** claims 17-20 and **amend** claims 1, 11 and 12 as follows. This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in this application.

1. (Currently amended) A catheter for delivering a vascular prosthesis within a body vessel, the vascular prosthesis having a ~~radially self-expanding~~ distal section and a proximal ~~helical~~ section, the catheter comprising:

an inner member comprising:

an elongated member having distal and proximal ends; and

a balloon attached to the elongated member adjacent to the distal end, the balloon having a radially expandable portion;

a sheath slidably disposed over ~~the elongated~~ at least a portion of the inner member to restrain the vascular prosthesis against the elongated member during transluminal insertion of the catheter; ~~and~~

means for engaging the distal section of the vascular prosthesis to prevent axial translation of the vascular prosthesis during proximal retraction of the sheath~~,~~; and

the means for engaging affixed to the ~~elongated~~ inner member at a position proximal of the radially expandable portion of the balloon.

2. (Original) The catheter of claim 1, wherein the means for engaging comprises a polymer layer that has been treated to enhance frictional engagement with the distal section of the vascular prosthesis.

3. (Previously presented) The catheter of claim 2, wherein the polymer layer comprises a proximal shoulder of the balloon.

4. (Original) The catheter of claim 1, wherein the means for engaging comprises raised features that interengage the distal section of the vascular prosthesis.

5. (Previously presented) The catheter of claim 4, wherein the raised features are formed on a proximal shoulder of the balloon.

6. (Original) The catheter of claim 5, wherein the raised features are chosen from the group consisting of ribs, bumps, ridges, grooves, notches and selectively inflatable sections.

7. (Original) The catheter of claim 1, wherein the balloon is configured to engage a wall of the body vessel during deployment of the distal section of the vascular prosthesis to prevent axial displacement of the catheter relative to the body vessel.

8. (Original) The catheter of claim 1, wherein the balloon is configured to perform angioplasty of a stenosis disposed within the body vessel.

9. (Original) The catheter of claim 1, further comprising at least one radio-opaque marker disposed on the elongated member and a radio-opaque marker disposed adjacent to a distal end of the sheath.

10. (Previously presented) The catheter of claim 1, wherein the elongated member further comprises an atraumatic tip disposed on the distal end and a lumen extending between the distal and proximal ends, the lumen dimensioned to slidably receive a guide wire.

11. (Currently amended) A catheter for delivering a vascular prosthesis within a body vessel, the vascular prosthesis having a ~~radially self-expanding~~ distal section and a proximal ~~helical~~ section, the catheter comprising:

an inner member comprising:

an elongated member having distal and proximal ends; and

a balloon attached to the elongated member adjacent to the distal end;

a sheath slidably disposed over ~~the elongated~~ at least a portion of the inner member to restrain the vascular prosthesis against the elongated member during transluminal insertion of the catheter; ~~and~~

a polymer layer affixed directly to the elongated member at a position proximal of the balloon, the polymer layer configured to engage the distal section of the vascular prosthesis and treated to enhance the grip of the polymer layer and to the vascular prosthesis to help prevent axial translation of the vascular prosthesis during proximal retraction of the sheath.

12. (Currently amended) The catheter of claim 11, wherein the balloon comprises a proximal shoulder, the proximal shoulder comprising the polymer layer ~~comprises a proximal shoulder of the balloon~~.

13. (Original) The catheter of claim 11, wherein the polymer layer defines raised features that interengage the distal section of the vascular prosthesis.

14. (Original) The catheter of claim 11, wherein the balloon is configured to engage a wall of the body vessel during deployment of the distal section of the vascular prosthesis to prevent axial displacement of the catheter relative to the body vessel.

15. (Original) The catheter of claim 11, wherein the balloon is configured to perform angioplasty of a stenosis disposed within the body vessel.

16. (Original) The catheter of claim 11, further comprising at least one radio-opaque marker disposed on the elongated member and a radio-opaque marker disposed adjacent to a distal end of the sheath.

17-20. (Canceled)